

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00714 241238Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 AID-05 IGA-02  
/088 W

-----241406Z 020690 /43

R 241207Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7323  
INFO COMICEDEFOR  
CINCLANT  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0714

DEPT ALSO FOR EUR/EX

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, IC  
SUBJECT: LABOR SITUATION REMAINS UNRESOLVED

REF: REYKJAVIK 652 AND PREVIOUS

1. CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ICELANDIC FEDERATION OF  
LABOR AND EMPLOYERS CONTINUE INCONCLUSIVELY. IFL BAN ON  
OVERTIME WORK REMAINS IN EFFECT, AND SEVERAL LOCALS HAVE  
STAGED BRIEF WILDCAT STRIKES.

2. AFTER SEVERAL MORE FRUITLESS SESSIONS, NEGOTIATORS WERE  
PRESENTED LAST WEEK WITH PACKAGE PROPOSAL FROM STATE MEDIA-  
TION COMMITTEE. TERMS INCLUDED IMMEDIATE 15,000 KRONUR  
(\$78) ACROSS-THE-BOARD MONTHLY PAY RAISE PLUS 6,000 ADDED  
HIKE IN JANUARY 1978. PACT WOULD RUN UNTIL NOVEMBER 1978.  
FEDERATION OF ICELANDIC EMPLOYERS REJECTED PROPOSALS,  
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THOUGH REPRESENTATIVES OF LARGE COOPERATIVE EMPLOYERS'  
GROUP TOOK THEM FOR STUDY. IFL, WHILE CLAIMING TERMS DID  
NOT GO FAR ENOUGH, DESCRIBED THEM AS STEP IN RIGHT  
DIRECTION. WHILE SETTLEMENT IS HARDLY AT HAND, MEDIA-  
TORS' PROPOSALS MAY AT LAST PROVIDE BETTER BASIS FOR  
SUBSTANTIVE BARGAINING THAN HAS EXISTED THUS FAR.

3. EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION, MEANWHILE, HAS REACTED ANGRILY OVER SERIES OF UNANNOUNCED WALKOUTS BY IFL AFFILIATES THAT SHUT DOWN REYKJAVIK AND OTHER PORTS PLUS REYKJAVIK AIRPORT FOR HALF DAY OR MORE AT DIFFERENT TIMES LAST WEEK. EMPLOYERS THREATENED TO SUSPEND THEIR PARTICIPATION IN CONTRACT TALKS IF WHAT THEY TERMED ILLEGAL STRIKES CONTINUED.

4. DESPITE LONG STALEMATE AT BARGAINING TABLE THERE SEEMS TO BE LESS ANTICIPATION NOW OF POSSIBLE GENERAL STRIKE THAN THERE WAS MONTH AGO (THOUGH THIS MAY BE PARTLY FACTOR OF PUBLIC BECOMING INURED TO STRIKE THREAT AND WEARY OF IT AS WELL.) IFL MAINTAINS THAT ITS CONTINUING OVERTIME BAN AND WILDCAT STRIKES ARE MERELY FORETASTE OF TOUGH MEASURES TO COME UNLESS SATISFACTORY TERMS ARE REACHED. SOME KNOWLEDGEABLE OBSERVERS, HOWEVER, CLAIM THAT GUERRILLA TACTICS ARE ALL IFL CAN MANAGE, DUE TO POOR STATE OF UNION STRIKE FUNDS AND RELUCTANCE OF FINANCIALLY SQUEEZED MEMBERS TO SACRIFICE INCOME EVEN IN GOOD COMMON CAUSE. AWARENESS OF THESE POSSIBLE WEAKNESSES ON LABOR'S SIDE MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO WHAT APPEARS TO BE HARD LINE POSITION OF MOST EMPLOYER GROUPS, WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF COOPERATIVES.

BLAKE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, LABOR UNIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, CONTRACTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770184-1202  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** REYKJAVIK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** f855d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 REYKJAVIK 652  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2390334  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LABOR SITUATION REMAINS UNRESOLVED  
**TAGS:** ELAB, IC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f855d18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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